

Collins, Lathrop, Maj.

[Evanston, IL]

1920-1921



Hotel Touraine,
Boston.

August 6th 1920.

The American Numismatic Society
New York City.

Dear Mr. Noe:

Many thanks for yours of the fourth instant.

I shall be more than pleased to meet Mr. Wyman when I come to New York, and as you say, we may find a way to assist each other in our mutual quest.

The medals I want are:

"Congressional Medal of Honor" (Old and new)
"Distinguished Service Cross" (Army and Navy)
"Distinguished Service Medal"

Civil War

Indian Campaigns

Spanish Campaigns

Spanish War

Army of Cuban Occupation

Army of Porto Rican Occupation

Philippine Campaigns

Philippine Congressional

China Campaign

Army of Cuban Pacification

Mexican Campaign

Mexican Border

Victory Medal

I have no idea of price for these with the exception of the campaign medals, one of which I bought for five dollars from a regular dealer. The first three listed, will bring quite a bit more, but just how much, I cannot say, however, I would be glad to pay about fifty dollars for all three. I could not afford more at this time, and, of course less if it should be possible and fair.

Many thanks again.

Sincerely, *Arthur Collins*

August 10th, 1920

Major Lathrop Collins
Hotel Touraine
Boston, Mass.

My dear Sir:

Mr. Noe has handed me your letter of August 6th. I am sorry not to have met you when you were here, and shall be very glad to be on the lookout for the pieces you mention. As a matter of fact, the collection of American War Medals is rather a slow process. The fact that the Campaign badges have no intrinsic value tends to keep them out of the market, and they are by no means as easy to acquire as, for instance, the similar English badges which, being in silver, are always pawnable.

Of course, the Congressional Medal of Honor is extremely hard to secure. One of our New York dealers did buy one a few months ago, but he purchased it under an agreement with the owner allowing him sixty days in which to repurchase it, and when I called him up the other day I found that the original owner had exercised his privilege and that the piece was no longer on the market.

The Distinguished Service Cross will, I feel sure, become available for purchase before long. They were issued in pretty large numbers, and unless the usual custom fails to apply in their case, will eventually be obtainable. The medal having most generally been issued to commissioned officers is not so liable to come on the market. However, I shall keep on the watch for any of these pieces and let you know if I find them.

May I ask if you meant that you would be willing to pay Fifty Dollars a piece for the Medal of Honor, Distinguished Service Cross and Distinguished Service Medal or Fifty Dollars for the three together. As a matter of fact, I think you can get the Cross, when you do get it, for considerably less than this, but imagine that the Medal of Honor would cost more.

Hoping to see you some time soon, I am
Very truly yours,

W/E

Assistant to Curator

November 12th, 1920.

Major Lathrop Collins,
1621 Ridge Avenue,
Evanston, Illinois.

My dear Major Collins:-

There has recently been brought into the Museum for examination a large collection of insignia and decorations of the German states and some of the German allies during the war. This is by far the most elaborate collection of the sort that I have seen for some time, and I think that many of the pieces could be purchased at very reasonable prices. If you should happen to be in New York before long I should be very glad to have you take the opportunity of looking them over.

We are hoping to get some of the collection for the Museum, and will probably be able to do so to better advantage if we can also arrange to dispose of a larger amount than we need for our own use.

Very truly yours,

Assistant to Curator.

LATHROP COLLINS
HOBARD WOODS
ILLINOIS

Evanston
1621 Ridge Avenue

Mr. A.C. Wyman
A.N.S.
New York City.

My dear Mr. Wyman:

Your very interesting letter under date of the twelfth instant received and in reply I would state that I do not expect to be in New York again this year, however I can never tell, but I am most interested in the collection of German medals now on display at the Museum and would give a lot to see them.

No doubt I could use many of them, altho I have quite a number German and Austrian medals, but from all I can gather, in the way of information, there are some five hundred medals in circulation from these countries which were struck during the recent war.

Could it be possible to obtain a list of them? I have a friend who collects nothing but German and Austrian medals and no doubt he can use many. I will write to him at once and will advise you later just how much cash he can spare at this time. Also I will be glad to take some altho my fund at this particular time is low, which is unfortunate. Maybe you will have them for purchase after the holidays, when I will be in better shape to buy.

Let me know about the list and I will write again soon regarding my friend. Thanking you for the opportunity and with kind regards to you all, I am,
Nov. 18th 1920.

Truly yours,
Lathrop Collins

December 9th, 1920

Major Lathrop Collins,
621 Ridge Avenue
Evanston, Ill.

My dear Major Collins:

I am awfully sorry but I have not got a list of the different pieces included in the collection of German insignia about which I wrote you, and am afraid that I could not get time to compile such a list. There are nearly 500 specimens in the collection. Most of them, however, are the insignia of the Orders of Knighthood in existence previous to the beginning of the World War, and they include the different badges and crosses of the several grades of these Orders.

There are few pieces which are the insignia decorations applying only to the recent war. A large proportion of the collection is made up of the insignia of the several German States, and there is a comparatively small amount of Prussian or Imperial decorations. The Collection will remain here for several months yet, and I may be able to get an opportunity to give you more detailed information later.

Very truly yours,

Assistant to Curator

W/E

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE
TO SALES OFFICE

SALES OFFICE
501 MONADNOCK---TEL. WABASH 1747

FACTORY
2640 GREENVIEW AVE.---TEL. DIVERSEY 6117-8

Collins Kitchen Craft

CHICAGO

MANUFACTURERS OF LABOR-SAVING DEVICES FOR CULINARY WORK

American Humismatic Society
Broadway - 155 - 156 Sts.
New York City.

July 15" 1921.

Mr. Sidney Hor.

Dear Mr. Hor -

I am enclosing a medal recently acquired and cannot classify it. Therefore am sending it on to you for that purpose - if possible - enclosed are stamps to cover its return.

It has not been my fortune to visit New York so far this year - but expect to do so before long - Please remember me to our good Office and know I will appreciate a report upon the enclosed.

With kindest regards - I am.

Sincerely yours.

Lathrop Collins
(Major - Evanston - Ill)

July 19th, 1921.

Major Lathrop Collins,
1621 Ridge Avenue,
Evanston, Illinois.

Dear Sir:-

The medal that you sent I have never seen,
and can only guess at its attribution.

The D before 14th RULI leads me to think
it is German. There was an Anton Ulrich, Duke of
Saxe-Meiningen from 1746 to 1763, who used the mono-
gram A. V., and the medal is in keeping with Saxony.
What the date signifies I have been unable to learn.

I beg to remain,

Very sincerely yours,

Curator.

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501 MONADNOCK---TEL. WABASH 1747

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Collins Kitchen Kraft

CHICAGO

MANUFACTURERS OF LABOR-SAVING DEVICES FOR CULINARY WORK

July 21 - 1921

The American Numismatic Society
New York City

For: Mr. Norman Wood.
curator.

Gentlemen -

Please accept my thanks and appreciation of your effort to classify the medal I recently sent you - and which you have just returned - No doubt you have succeeded well - I thought it was English - but I know I am wrong - now. Thanking you again, I am -

Sincerely yours

Laurel Collins -

November 9th, 1921

Major Lathrop E. Collins
1621 Ridge Avenue
Evanston, Ill.

Dear Major Collins:

We have a large number of duplicate
German, Austrian and Bulgarian Decorations
which we are anxious to sell. We are en-
closing the list of these with prices mark-
ed. If any of these interest you, we would
be very glad to forward them to you.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW/E
Enc.

LATHROP COLLINS

HUBBARD WOODS
ILLINOIS

Wanston

A. N. S. New-York -

Dear Mr. Wood -

Your most tempting letter with list of medals offered for sale is before me - and at a very unpropitious moment as I have had a very hard year in business and it is just beginning to show signs of life at this late date.

Therefore - it is with much regret that I am unable to take immediate advantage and purchase many of your duplicates - If I may retain the list - perhaps I may take over some a little later? Otherwise I shall return the list should you request - With many thanks for thinking of me at this time and with kindest regards to all - I am
Sincerely yours.

Nov. 12-21.

Lathrop Collins

November 22nd, 1921

Lathrop Collins, Esq.
Evanston, Illinois

Dear Mr. Collins:

Since my last letter to you I have sold a number of the German Decorations, and will send off most of the balance on consignment to one of the dealers in a short while. Therefore, if you really want anything, I would advise you to let me know now as a little later there may be nothing from which to pick.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW/E